

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A buoyancy can for supporting an offshore oil and gas riser includes an axial bore
10 through which the riser extends coaxially, and a radio-axial slot extending through a side of the
can and into the axial bore. A pair of spaced-apart support features are disposed coaxially on the
riser, and the can includes a pair of corresponding sockets in the axial bore thereof. The sockets
are adapted to receive and vertically support respective ones of the support features in a com-
plementary, axial engagement. The can is placed in the water and moved laterally relative to a
15 fully assembled, vertically supported riser such that the riser passes through the radio-axial slot
of the can and into the axial bore thereof without the need for disassembly of the upper portion of
the riser. The relative vertical positions of the can and riser are then adjusted such that the sup-
port features engage and seat within respective ones of their complementary sockets.